

Message Text

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41

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

DOT-00 /103 W

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P 111606Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7991

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA PRIORITY

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJ: MTN - AUSTRIAN ROAD TAXES

REF: A. VIENNA 1818, B. VIENNA 1843, C. USDEL MTN GENEVA 1781

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH ECON/COML COUNS TODAY, DR. GLEISSNER, HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF FEDERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, OBSERVED THAT ALTHOUGH CHAMBER HAD OVERLOOKED AUSTRIAN UNDERTAKING IN KR TO BIND THEN EXISTING RELATIONSHIP OF TAX RATES BETWEEN AUTOMOBILES OF DIFFERENT ENGINE SIZES, CHAMBER HAD TAKEN STRONG POSITION AGAINST INCREASE IN AUTOMOBILE TAXES FOR OTHER REASONS. FINANCE MINISTER ANDROSCH, HOWEVER, UNDER GREAT PRESSURE TO INCREASE REVENUES, HAD NOT ACCEPTED CHAMBER'S POSITION.

2. GLEISSNER SAID THAT THERE WAS NO DOUBT U.S. HAD LEGAL BASIS TO SEEK CHANGE IN NEW TAX LAW BUT DOUBTED THAT ANDROSCH WOULD BE WILLING TO CHANGE OR WITHDRAW LAW (WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO REACH PARLIAMENT BY APRIL 1), SINCE HE (ANDROSCH) IS

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NOW PUBLICLY COMMITTED TO MOVE AHEAD WITH THE MEASURE.

GLEISSNER SAID HE WOULD BRING MATTER TO ATTENTION OF
MINISTRY OF FINANCE IMMEDIATELY.

3. WE HAVE PROCEEDED TO ALERT VARIOUS OFFICIALS IN THE
CONCERNED MINISTRIES (FINANCE, TRADE, FOREIGN MINISTRY)
AND ARE SENDING COPIES OF TIAS 6426 TO THESE OFFICIALS.
IF WE ARE TO HAVE ANY HOPE OF GETTING GOA TO MODIFY PROPOSED
ROAD TAX LEGISLATION, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT A HIGH-LEVEL,
FORMAL APPROACH WILL BE REQUIRED IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE.
EVEN WITH SUCH A DEMARCHE, HOWEVER, OUR CURRENT JUDGMENT
IS THAT THE GOA MAY WELL DECIDE TO GO AHEAD WITH THE
LEGISLATION AND LET THE MATTER BE RAISED IN GENEVA.
REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS ASAP.BUCHANAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 11 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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04 MAY 2006

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